

Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 06:00 on Sunday 31 Dec 2023 until 23:59 on Monday 01 Jan 2024

Forecast Issued on Sunday 31 Dec 2023 at 02:18 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: Mostly high for New Years Eve and New Years Day, but low for cloud amounts on New Years Day.
Low for details from Tuesday.

Headline for Sunday 31 Dec 2023: Mainly dry and bright start, showers later. Some fog in the glens.

Mountain weather hazards on Sunday 31 Dec 2023

Blizzards

No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow

No Likelihood

Storm force winds

No Likelihood

Gales

No Likelihood

Severe chill effect

Medium Likelihood

Poor visibility

Low Likelihood

Thunderstorms

No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain

No Likelihood

Strong sunlight

No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
					
Clear night	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny intervals	Light snow	Light snow
Precipitation probability					
<05%	<05%	<05%	10%	30%	30%

Forecast for Sunday 31 Dec 2023

Weather: Some areas of fog in the glens at first. Mainly dry morning with occasional bright and sunny spells. Cloud increasing through afternoon and evening with showers building, chiefly across northern ranges, with snow level 500m.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 80%

Low cloud and visibility: Very good visibility on the tops, with just a few patches of cloud around 800m, most likely in the south. Some poor visibility in the glens and lower slopes with fog or low cloud extending up to around 500m.

Forecast for Sunday 31 Dec 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)				Wind Direction (blowing from)		
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	29/35 SE	20/24 E	15/18 E	8/11 E	7/9 S	8/10 S	9/12 S
900	28/34 SE	20/24 E	15/19 E	9/11 E	7/9 S	8/10 S	9/12 S
600	21/26 SE	15/19 SE	11/15 E	5/8 E	6/8 S	6/8 S	7/10 S
300	6/20 E	5/15 E	7/14 E	4/8 E	4/8 NE	4/8 S	2/9 S
Glen	14/23 E	13/18 E	11/15 E	6/8 E	5/7 NE	3/5 E	2/5 NE

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	-1/-9	-1/-7	-1/-6	-0/-4	-1/-5	-2/-6	-2/-6
900	-0/-8	-0/-7	-0/-6	0/-4	-1/-4	-1/-5	-1/-5
600	2/-4	2/-3	2/-2	2/-0	1/-2	1/-2	1/-3
300	1/-2	1/-2	2/-2	1/-1	1/-2	1/-1	-1/-3
Glen	5/0	5/1	5/2	4/2	4/2	3/2	3/2
Freezing Level*	800m	700m	700m	700m	700m	700m	700m

*Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

A calmer day to end the year with a cloud inversion likely above 500m, but a notable wind chill.

Forecast for Monday 01 Jan 2024

Weather: Mostly dry with some clear spells in the early hours, but snow showers along the west coast, mainly Skye and Knoydart. These showers continue into the morning, but largely die out by midday. Otherwise a dry day with some bright or sunny spells, most likely in the afternoon. Thicker cloud likely to spread east in the evening.

Maximum wind: South or southeast 15 gusting 20 mph

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 30-40%.

Low cloud and visibility: Visibility often poor in low cloud, with bases around 500-600m, but some cloud breaks too, the best chance of these around mid-afternoon.

Temperature: Glens: Plus 2 or 3 Celsius.

At 800m: Minus 1 Celsius dropping to minus 3 Celsius in the evening.

Freezing level: 700m, perhaps rising to 800-900m in the west late afternoon, 500m late evening.